

OCT 22 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

#10/B  
10/24/02  
NW

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington VA 22202



Date of Signature and Deposit: October 15, 2002,

Attorney of Record

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): DAVID C. SCHWARTZ  
Serial No.: 09/638,102  
Filed: August 11, 2000  
For: Chemical Screening System Using Strip Arrays  
Group Art Unit: 1641  
Examiner: Deborah A. Davis  
Docket No.: 960296.97133

## RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 2, 2002, please amend claims 1, 2, 5-10 and 12 as follows:

### 1. A chemical screening kit comprising:

(a) a library of different filaments of a non-reactive substrate extending along a longitudinal axis and supporting, spaced along that longitudinal axis, a linear array of different, chemically reactive substances exposed on a surface of each filament; and

5 (b) a support frame for receiving and holding a plurality of different filaments being a subset of the library of different filaments, the support frame holding the plurality of different filaments for mutual exposure to a material to be screened.

2. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filament has a length taken along the longitudinal axis of at least ten times a maximum cross-sectional dimension of the filament taken across the longitudinal axis.

5 2. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the non-reactive substrate is a glass fiber.

6. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the support frame holds the filaments transversely spaced in parallel relationship.

7. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the support frame holds the filaments transversely spaced along two perpendicular axes.

8. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filaments include isolating bands of a chemically repellant coating between the chemically reactive substances.

b2 cont  
9. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filaments include recessed pockets receiving the chemically reactive substances.

10. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filaments include a marker allowing the filaments to be distinguished.

---

b3  
12. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filaments include a marker allowing a given end of the filament to be identified.

13. The chemical screening apparatus of claim 12 wherein the marker is selected from the group of printing and fluorescent material.

---

Please cancel claim 22 without prejudice to further prosecution in a divisional application.

Please add the following new claims 34-36.

---

34. A chemical screening apparatus comprising:

(a) at least two different strips of a non-reactive substrate extending along a longitudinal axis and supporting, spaced along that longitudinal axis, a linear array of different, chemically reactive substances exposed on a surface of the strip; and

5 (b) a support frame for receiving and holding the strips for mutual exposure to a material to be screened wherein the support frame holds the filaments transversely spaced along two perpendicular axes.

b4

35. A chemical screening apparatus comprising: